

NATURAL HISTORY NOTES

On Some Coleoptera in Fungus-Infested Conifers (Melandryidae, Cephaloidea).— In the course of investigations of the insect fauna of dead conifers in western Washington original observations were made on the host material of several beetles.

MELANDRYIDAE

Zilora hispida LeConte. This species has been taken under bark of *Tsuga heterophylla* (Raf.) Sarg (Clark 1956). In western Washington 2 groups of *Z. hispida* were found breeding under bark of *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Mirb.) Franco, and one group under bark of *T. heterophylla*. The trees were in dense shade, and in each case the surface of the bark where the larvae, pupae, and adults were found was covered with sporophores of *Polyporus abietinus* Dicks. ex Fr.; mycelia were abundant in the subcortical area. Two larvae in *P. menziesii* had been parasitized by *Diospilus washingtonensis* (Rohwer). All specimens were taken in winter.

Prothalia holmbergi Mannerheim. Hosts of this species are apparently not known. During the present study a group of about 12 larvae, pupae and adults were found in late fall in a 1.5 cm branch of *P. menziesii*. The branch was resting on the ground in dense shade; the wood was firm, although extensively invaded by fungus. A second group of 4 larvae and 1 adult were found in winter in a suppressed, dry, partially rotten branch of *Pinus contorta* Dougl. still attached to the tree. About 50 adults were taken on sticky traps on logs of *P. menziesii* between 13 April and 28 July, 1972.

Anaspis olympiae Hatch. Two adult *A. olympiae* were found overwintering in their pupal cells in a shaded, standing, partially rotten 5 cm stump of *P. menziesii*.

CEPHALOIDAE

Cephaloon pacificum Van Dyke. Larvae of *C. pacificum* are reported from conifer logs (Peterson 1950), but apparently nothing else is known about this common species. Mature larvae, pupae, and teneral adults were found during May in an 8 cm partially rotten top of *P. menziesii*; it is not known whether the top had broken off before it was infested. The insects were in cells lined with a black fungus superficially resembling those of ambrosia beetles. A single adult was reared from a larva taken from a gallery (not lined with fungus) in a bolt of *P. menziesii*; the bolt had probably been cut 3 years previously. About 150 adult *C. pacificum* were taken in 1972 on sticky traps on recently cut *P. menziesii* from early June through mid-July, with a peak of captures in mid-June.

LITERATURE CITED

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- Mark A. Deyrup
Department of Entomology
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907